

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1-22 (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) An image data retrieval apparatus comprising:  
a database for registering a plurality of images;  
a display unit for displaying an image registered in the image database;  
a designator for designating an image area of the registered image displayed on the display unit; and  
a controller for cutting out image data corresponding to the registered image data and retrieving a desired image data containing image data which is identical or analogous to the image data cut out from the database, wherein the cutout image data ~~corresponds to~~is the actual image of the displayed image.

24. (Previously presented) The image data retrieval apparatus of claim 23, wherein the image corresponding to the image area is an image of a face of a person.

25-26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently Amended) An image data retrieval method comprising:  
registering a plurality of images in a database;  
displaying an image registered in the database on a display unit;  
designating an image area of the registered image displayed on the display unit;  
cutting out image data corresponding to the designated image area of the registered image; and  
retrieving a desired image containing image data which is identical or analogous to the image data cut out from the registered image, wherein the cutout image data ~~corresponds to~~is the actual image of the displayed image.

28. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable medium having program code stored thereon which, when executed by a machine, causes the machine to perform a method for retrieving image data from an image database, the method executed by said machine comprising:

registering a plurality of images in a database;

displaying an image registered in the database on a display unit;

designating an image area of the registered image displayed on the display unit;

cutting out image data corresponding to the designated image area of the registered image;

and

retrieving a desired image containing image data which is identical or analogous to the image data cut out from the registered image, wherein the cutout image data ~~corresponds to~~ is the actual image of the displayed image.